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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, August 1, 1985 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 27 totaled an estimated 17.5 billion ton-miles, 2.6 percent below the corresponding week of 1984, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 30 weeks of 1985 was an estimated 514.7 billion ton-miles, down 3.7 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended July 27 totaled 380,457, down 6.5 percent from last year, but 3.4 percent higher than the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 8.1 percent in the East, 11.1 percent in the South and 2.6 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 14 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. Loadings of motor vehicles and equipment increased by 1,823 cars (10.3 percent). Loadings of metallic ores were down 5,561 cars (28.3 percent) and grain loadings were off 4,334 cars (17.3 percent). Twelve of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended July 20 totaled 86,543 trailers and/or containers, 1.3 percent below the corresponding week of 1984.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 29 weeks of the year was 2,446,192 trailers and/or containers, down 3.1 percent from 1984.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/27/85:

	Loadings in Week ended July 27, 1985		Change from Corresponding Week 1984			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	20,770	D	4,334	17.3	D	635	3.0
Other farm products	3,091	I	142	4.8	I	120	4.0
Metallic ores	14,069	D	5,561	28.3	D	54	0.4
Coal	119,918	D	9,687	7.5	I	12,651	11.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,153	I	143	1.1	D	297	2.2
Nonmetallic minerals	12,577	D	309	2.4	D	104	0.8
Grain mill products	9,933	I	127	1.3	I	289	3.0
Food and kindred products	10,772	I	129	1.2	D	344	3.1
Primary forest products	10,956	D	3,138	22.3	I	29	0.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,178	D	73	1.0	I	26	0.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,148	D	1,514	10.3	I	237	1.8
Chemicals and allied products	22,056	D	1,708	7.2	I	385	1.8
Petroleum products	4,729	D	130	2.7	D	122	2.5
Stone, clay and glass products	10,425	D	738	6.6	I	15	0.1
Coke	4,640	D	110	2.3	I	283	6.5
Metals and products	8,957	D	436	4.6	D	294	3.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,570	I	1,823	10.3	I	265	1.4
Waste and scrap materials	8,006	D	869	9.8	D	454	5.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	6,681	D	813	10.8	I	140	2.1
All other carloads	59,647	I	619	1.0	I	540	0.9
LCL traffic	181	I	53	41.4	D	5	2.7
Total Cars Loaded	380,457	D	26,384	6.5	I	12,671	3.4
Corresponding week of 1984	406,841						

	1985	1984	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (30 weeks)	11,154,417	11,799,572	D 5.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
29 Weeks ended July 20	497.2	516.7	D 3.8
Week ended July 27	17.5	17.9	D 2.6
30 weeks cumulative	514.7	534.6	D 3.7

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